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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Ryokichi Matsumoto et al  
Serial No. : 09/638,162  
Filed : August 14, 2000  
For : POLARIZATION-MAINTAINING OPTICAL FIBER  
AND POLARIZATION-MAINTAINING OPTICAL  
FIBER COMPONENT  
Art Unit : 2874  
Examiner : N/A

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February 6, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

The following Amendment and Response is responsive to the Office Action dated November 6, 2002 for the above-identified patent application. A (3) three month response period was set for February 6, 2003. Accordingly, this Response is timely filed.

In response to the Office Action of November 6, 2002, kindly amend the application as follows: